Sl. No.	District	Literacy Rate
29.	Sahibgunj	27.03
30.	Dumka	34.02
31.	Deoghar	37.92
32.	Dhanbad	55.47
33.	Giridih	35.96
34.	Hazaribagh	38.00
35.	Palamau	31.10
36.	Lohardaga	40.79
37.	Gumla	39.67
38.	Ranchi	51.52
39.	Purba Singhbhum	59.05
40.	Paschimi Singhbhum	38.92
41.	Araria	26.19
42.	Kishanganj	22.22

India's Performance in Recent Asian Games

1942. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: SHRI YERRA NARAYANASWAMY:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the number of medals won by India in the recent Asian Games;

(b) whether Government are satisfied with the performance; and

(c) if no, the steps proposed to encourage sports in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND THE DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT OR THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SUSHREE UMA BHARATI) : (a) India won 35 Medals (7 Gold, 11 Silver & 17 Bronze) in the Asian Games held at Bangkok from 6th to 20th December, 1998, which is a higher tally than in the 1994 and 1990 Asain Games in which India secured 4 & 1 Gold Medal respectively and the total medal tally in each Asian Games was 23 medals respectively.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. In order to improve and consolidate on the present performance, the Government has asked each National Sports Federation to draw up a detailed Long Term Development Programme for raising the standard of sport. The holding of tournaments at Sub-Junior, Junior and Senior levels has been emphasised in order to scout talent. The Government has taken new initiatives in opening a National Sports Development Fund. It has commenced a Scheme for promising sportspersons wherein an amount upto Rs. 5.00 lakhs can be spent for individual sportspersons for improving their standards. All the existing sports schemes operated by the Government has been suitably revised. The Sports Authority of India has been asked to hold regular coaching camps and to provide requisite scientific support. Foreign coaches are also being selectively appointed for coaching.

Introduction of Computer as a Major Education Tool

1943. SHRI SATISHCHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce computer as a major educational tool; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) and (b) A programme of Computer Literacy has already been introduced on a wide scale in the states and union territories as well as autonomous bodies, like Kendriya Vidyalaya, etc. The Government recognises the need to develop computers as a major educational tool in the wake of the latest developments in the fields of Information and Communication Technology. Several Steps have already been initiated to popularise computer education at the secondary and senior school level. Computer science has been